(2) whether anybody was got down from Madras to fit up the X-ray installation in the General Hospital; if so,

(3) (a) what are his qualifications;

(b) what amount the State has to spend on this account

(4) what was the necessity to bring down a man from Madras at public cost when there is already one in the service specially appointed to X-ray Department so far back as 17th Meenam 1100;

(5) is it a fact that the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer went to Madras to get a man to put up the X-ray;

(6) if so, what amount the State had to incur for his trip?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) On 15th March 1926.

(2) Yes.

(3) (a) M. S. R., F. R. P. S., Radiologist to the Government of Madras.

(b) Rs. 726-14-6.

(4) Fitting up X-ray machinery has to be done by an Electrical Engineer or an Electrician who has had experience in X-ray manufacturing works. The Officer appointed to X-ray Department, General Hospital, is expected to deal with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases by X-rays.

(5) No.

(6) No answer is required.

22. **Mr. Poulo Mampilli.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an X-ray Expert from outside was got down to fit up the X-ray apparatus in the Ernakulam General Hospital?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answer to question 21, sub-division(2).

23. **Mr. Poulo Mampilli.**—Will the Government be pleased to state the circumstances under which this expert had to be brought down?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answer to question 21, sub-division (4).

24. **Mr. Poulo Mampilli.**—Will the Government be pleased to say how much the Government had to spend for getting down the expert?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answer to question 21, sub-division 3 (b).

The Supply of Medicines.

25. **Dr. A. G. Menon.**—With reference to the reply to question No. 119 of the legislative session of Vrischigam 1101, will the Government be pleased to state:—

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(1) whether there were any complaints against Messrs. Ferris & Co:, about the quality of medicines, etc., supplied by them, apart from the price of drugs as quoted in the reply ;

(2) whether the said Messrs. Ferris & Co., who were supplying medicines, etc., for about a quarter of a century, were asked if they could supply at a cheaper rate before transactions were entered into with Messrs. Dadha & Co. ;

(3) did the Government call for tenders for the supply of medicines, etc. ;

(a) if so, how many tenders were received ;

(b) if not, why not ;

(c) whether there was any complaint about the quality of medicines supplied by Messrs. Dadha & Co. ?

Diwan Badadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) No.

(2) It was not considered necessary, as Ferris & Co. had made it clear that they had conceded special prices and terms for their medical supplies to the State.

(3) No. Tenders for medical supply to the State have not been in vogue at any time.

(a) Vide answer above.

(b) The most careful investigation was made by reference to the published price lists of other English manufacturing Chemists and Druggists and leading Indian firms, and it was found that Messrs. Dadha & Co's. terms were more favourable.

(c) No complaints were received regarding the general supply except in the case of one or two drugs which were returned and the cost deducted from the bill.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, I have to make an appeal to you. I sent my question on 14th March 1926, two days after the prorogation of the last session. I asked the Government whether they would be pleased to lay on the table the correspondence, if there is any, regarding the contract between Messrs. Ferries and Co., and, if there was no crrespondence, it is easy to say "No". Now two of my other questions sent along with this question are placed on the table to-day. The answer to this question alone would assist me in putting supplementary questions. I sent the same under the same heading about the contract with Messrs. Ferris and Co. Here I may inform you that you had ruled that questions of one member relating to the same subject should be answered together. Now, I do not see my third question answered in the list of questions placed on the table to-day. In the absence of that correspondence, I may not be able to put supplementary questions.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—There was some delay in getting the necessary papers and afterwards, we got the correspondence, and that is going to be placed on the table next week.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—May I be permitted to put supplementary questions, on the questions placed on the table to-day, (after publication of that correspondence), because, regarding that correspondence, I will have to ask so many questions. If that correspondence is placed on the table, I can minimise the number of questions also. I do not know whether the Government is going to answer them. I may be allowed to put supplementary questions after that portion of the correspondence is published. That is generally done in Madras. Of my questions, numbers 2 and 3 are answered, but the first part is left out. If the correspondence is placed on the table, I think it will assist me in putting supplementary questions.

President.—So you have to go back to this question on that day?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Yes, Sir. In Madras it is generally done. When the other portion is to be published only some days afterwards, a member may be permitted to put supplementary questions on the first set of questions on that day. All these questions relate to the same person, same matter, and the same question was sent on the same day, and even that, some four months ago.

President.—As soon as answers are received to a particular question, they are printed. The answer to the third sub-division of your question was received only later on, and that is why you do not see the answer to that question included in to-day's questions and answers.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—But there is another point. In order to answer my two questions answered to-day, they should have gone through that correspondence which I had asked to be placed on the table.

President.—The correspondence will be placed on the table next week, when the third question also will be answered.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, I request I may be allowed to put my supplementary questions on these questions then.

President.—Let that question come for answer. We shall see.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Thank you, Sir.

26. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any agreement between the Government and Messrs. Dadha & Co.? If there is, will the Government be pleased to place it on the table?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. A copy of the agreement is appended. (*Vide Appendix I.*)

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

27. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state if there is any objection in publicly inviting terms for the supply of drugs?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

28. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—If there are any objections, will the Government be pleased to state them?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Inviting tenders for the medical supply of the State has not been in vogue at any time. Neither is such a procedure adopted in British India or in any of the Native States for the simple reason that the lowest price is not the criterion in the matter of the supply of drugs and surgical instruments and other medical supplies.

29. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—If there are no objections, will the Government be pleased to state if it would order such an experiment to be tried?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answers to questions, 27 and 28. Government have no objection however in selecting a few well-known manufacturing Chemists and Druggists or importers of recognised standing and reputation in India and asking them to quote terms.

30. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing the drugs obtained, their quality and quantity and the prices charged for them during the years 1100 and 1101from Messrs. Dadha& Co.?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is not possible to consolidate all the invoices of all the various medical institutions without enormous labour. The Government do not consider that any public purpose will be served thereby.

31. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased, to state the price of the drugs ordered for 1100 M. E., but supplied only in 1101 to the several institutions?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Rs. 794—5—0.

32. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state if in ordering for drugs for 1101 M. E. the existence of drugs ordered for 1100 but only given out in 1101 has been taken into consideration.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The quantity indented is ordinarily based on the balance in stock at the time of making the indent. All the medicines of 1100 had been supplied before the indents of 1101 were prepared.

33. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state if it tried to find out whether its medical supplies could be got on cheaper terms than that offered by Messrs. Dadha & Co., before the latter's terms were accepted?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answer to question 25, sub-division 3 (b).

34. Mr. Poulo Mampilli .—If the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state the nature of the enquiries made, and what individuals or firms were given a chance to offer any terms?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answer to question 25, sub-division 3 (b).

35. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—If the Government has made no such enquiries, will the Government be pleased to order such enquiries to be made before the orders for 1102 M. E. are placed with Messrs. Dadha & Co.?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answer to question 29.

The appointment of the Junior Civil Surgeon in Charge of the Office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

36. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state their reasons for putting the Junior Civil Surgeon in charge of the Office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer when there was in active service a Senior Civil Surgeon?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The Government did not consider it expedient to dislocate the existing arrangements of Civil Surgeons in such a short vacancy.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, I rise to a point of order. We heard the name of Mr. Poulo Mampilli called several times, but, according to rules, the names of absent members cannot be called. There was a ruling made by the President to this effect on a previous occasion. Under Rule 13 of the Cochin Legislative Council Rules, his name cannot be called. This rule I bring to your kind notice. Once the objection was raised, and you ruled that the names of the members absent need not be called.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I do not think there was any ruling to that effect on any previous occasion.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—It is in the published Proceedings.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Will the Hon'ble Member be pleased to refer me to the volume and the page of the Proceedings?

Mr. C. A Ouseph.—I have not got the copy of the Proceedings with me now. I shall bring it to-morrow.

President.—There is some controversy between the Secretary to the Council and Mr. Ouseph. Has this matter

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly